The Somerset Herald.

WEDNESDAY - - - - - May 9 1877.

SOUTHERN papers are making much over the recent condemnation of a white man to death for the murdering a negro in Georgia, thus showing how rare such condemnation has been for a crime confessedly frequent. In fact, it is said to be the only case on record in the State.

A NEW YORK clergyman makes the announcement that there are, in that city, five hundred and twenty-five converts from Judaism to Christianity. These conversions have come through labors of several Jews converted at the time of the Moody and Sankey meetings in that city.

PRESIDENT HAYES will leave Washington by special train on Wednesday, May 9, for Philadelphia, to attend the opening of the Permanent Exhibition. He will be accompanied by all the High officers of the Government whose public duties will permit them to attend. He will return on Friday, May 11, and on the following Monday, May 14, he will leave the capital for New York. On the 15th he will be received by the New York Chamber of Commerce, and receive other courtesies. It is not decided whether the visit will be extended to other points.

GRACE GREENWOOD lately illustrated a position, by the anecdote of a youngster, who after being severely spanked by his maternal ancestor, and time sufficient having elapsed for the tingling sensation to have spent itself, replied to the inquiry why he persisted in roaring, "I want to be conciliated." So, with Wade Hampton's lambs in the Senate of South Carolina, who insist on the Presidents further conciliating them, by preventing the arrest and trial of the Ellenton and Hamburg murderers. "Political persecution" they call the proposed trial of General M. C. Butler (the newly elected Democratic U. S. Senator) who headed the assassins, that murdered scores of defenseless negroes because they paraded as a militia company on the 4th of July last.

By all means let those mild mannered gentlemen be conciliated. The President may as well graciously assent to it, for there is not the remotest chance of Wade Hampton permitting the law to have its course. The white Democrats of South Carolina are entirely too high-toned, to be tried and hanged for merely killing a few niggers."

THE extra session of Congress which it has been so positively announced was to be called on the 5th of June, has been postponed till the 15th of October. Now, let not the unregenerate scoffer assert that the President was afraid to risk a present discussion of his Southern policy, which was sure to follow on the assembling of Congress, and therefore postponed the session to prevent the discussion, for the news-gatherers at Washington sent forth the contradiction in advance of the allegation being made, and no one will deny that these smart fellows know everything intuitively.

It is true that the army and navy will have to go without their pay, and the courts will have to cease the trial of causes and the transaction of general business for the lack of money to pay expenses, but what matters that, in comparison with the precious health of members of Congress, which it is alleged would suffer by a session in the hot month of June; and moreover it was discovered that the "business community" did not approve of a meeting of Congress at this time.

It is a pity these potent reasons were not discovered a month since, and the country saved all the pother we have had about the extra session of Congress. Sam Randall is surely entitled to his action for damages.

MR. JEFFERSON DAVIS does not despair of the "lost cause;" he said in a speech made at Mobile a few days since:

> We have passed through a terrible ordeal of deprivation, of wrong and injustice; and you have borne it with a fortitude only equaled by the gallantry displayed in your desperate effort to maintain a cause which has been crushed, but not destroyed, for it was the cause of truth, which is eternal; and with all these sad memories clustering around you, you come not to upbraid me as responsible for your disasters, but to shield me in the depths of my adversity with the warm covering of your hearts' best affections. Cold indeed would be the nature which did not find in this a solace for all its disappointments, and a consolation for its ruined hopes.
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> From the bottom of my heart I thank you. Though the silver lining of the cloud be but faintly discernible, yet be not dismayed. But that I need not say to men who never feel any other fear than that of doing wrong. Then let me say rather, "Be not without hope." The cause for which you struggled was that of justice and of truth. The triumphs of these may be postponed, but in the ordering of Providence must come at last. Your motives must be appreciated, sooner or later, for your sacrifices were made for constitutional liberty; and those who died bravely, though they fell vainly, are not to be reckoned as the most unfortunate; for, whether bearing a sabre or a musket, whether on the battle field or upon the vessel's deck, the proper place for man to die is where he dies for man.
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> For the honor of the comrades whose untimely deaths you mourn, for the respect due to the cause you loved, for the pride you feel in your ancestry, for the hopes you cherish for your posterity, let not your eyes revert constantly to the past; but, contrasting the present and looking patriotically on the future, let your efforts be made to repair what has been injured, and to build again, higher and broader, on a more solid foundation, the temple of human liberty, after the model left you by your fathers.
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> You engaged in no war for sectional aggrandizement; you fought no battles for personal advantage; you were prompted by no malice; and your knightly escutcheon is tarnished by no sordid hate or desire for mean revenge. The war left you stripped of all save honor, and your chivalry was as incapable of inflicting wrong as it was of submitting to it tamely. The past demands, then, knightly generosity and faithful devotion to the principles you inherited from revolutionary sires, and which you will best bless mankind by transmitting unchanged to posterity.—Thrice and five times I am thankful for the indication which the day brings to us of the revival of the spirit in which our Union was founded, from which our prosperity springs, and upon which its perpetuity must surely depend.

THE April statement of the public debt shows a reduction for the month, of $4,315,509, and for the ten months up to May 1st, of over $29,000,000, which includes the $7,000,000 received from the Alabama claims award. This is $2,000,000 in excess of the reduction for the corresponding months of the last fiscal year.

ANOTHER of the Louisiana complications has been adroitly got rid of, by the President appointing Judge John E. King, Collector of the Port of New Orleans.

Judge King was a member of the Packard Supreme Court, the organization of which was unquestionably legal, and his acceptance of the Collectorship breaks up the Republican majority in that body, and makes way for the (Nicholls (Democratic) Court. This is not only another step in the progress of conciliation, but it verifies the truth of that venerable apothegm that, "some things can be done as well as others."

THE horrible account of the political murders perpetrated in Mississippi—published in another column—speaks badly for the new era of reconciliation and peace just inaugurated. A more deplorable condition of society could not possibly exist, and if this bloody work, actuated by political passions, evidences the result of "local self-government" then indeed there are gloomy times in store for Southern Republicans.

These men were leading Republicans, were among the largest property-owners in their section, natives of the South, and served in the Confederate Army. Chisolm and Gilmer have held responsible positions in Mississippi. After the war Chisolm advocated the acceptance of reconstruction, and early became an active Republican. He was Probate Judge of his county before the rebellion, and was elected Sheriff of Kemper after reconstruction, which office he held continuously up to last Fall, when he was the Republican candidate for Congress in the Third District. Gilmer was a State Senator for three or four years. It is believed the assassination of these two men was the result of a prearranged plan, and that the assassination of Gully, a short time previous, was seized upon as the pretext for arresting Chisolm and Gilmer, in order that they might be disarmed and killed.

As is truly said by the New York *Times*, the occurrence is significant, as showing the temper of the whites of the section where it took place. Doubtless, it is possible to have peace and order in Mississippi ultimately, from the reign of Democracy, but it appears probable, that it will only be when all obnoxious Republicans are killed off.

HERE is a fellow that does'nt know on which side his bread is buttered. He refuses to be conciliated," and cavorts around as in ante-bellum times. He is editor of the *Phœnix* the Democratic official organ at Columbia, South Carolina. Wade Hampton will have to sit down on him hard, or his biler will bust. This kind of talk about the President's policy in a perfectly conciliated State wont do.

NOW WHAT? With the downfall of Radicalism in Louisiana, the last of the contested States has fallen into the hands of the Democracy, and now the tide of public opinion should set against Mr. Hayes with such force as to compel him to yield the Presidential chair to Samuel J. Tilden, its rightful possessor. Then, indeed, would the work of purification be complete. Mr. Hayes has no more right to be President than has Chamberlain, Stearns or Packard to be Governor. All three of these men joined in perpetrating the most outrageous frauds to make it appear that their States had gone for Hayes, and under these frauds he was declared elected. Public opinion and the Courts have decided against them, and they have been compelled to step down and out in disgrace, and Hayes should be obliged to do the same thing. The office he holds is stolen, and if he did not steal it he is a partaker, and the partaker is said to be as bad as the thief. Is it possible that the people of this country are going to allow its chief and most honorable office to be filled by one who every one knows to be a thief? We hope not. These pretended Governors relied upon the power which Mr. Hayes wields to maintain them in their unjust positions, but he has turned his back upon them, and now the country should turn its back upon him. His position is exactly what theirs was. Fraud, villainous fraud, is what they all relied upon, and now that the small fry are displaced, let the furnace of indignation glow with fervent heat until Mr. Hayes will be completely roasted out. Hurrah for Tilden!

Western Crop Prospects.

TOLEDO, May 1.—The *Blade* publishes this afternoon a comprehensive crop report gathered from observation in about 300 places in Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa and Missouri. The tenor of all the reports is highly gratifying. In all the wheat growing districts the prospect is unusually good, better than has been known for years. Many call it the best *ever* known. There was but little if any Winter killing. Preparations are making everywhere for the planting of an uncommonly large acreage of corn. The recent heavy rains have, however, interfered somewhat with planting. There does not seem to be as general a disposition to sow oats as might have been imagined, and the acreage will be smaller than usual. The meadows everywhere look well, and the hay prospects are fine. Apples and small fruits will be abundant everywhere except in a few places where hailstones have done some damage. A partial crop of peaches is expected in Indiana, Illinois and Missouri, but the reports from Michigan are discouraging.

Burglars Shot.

BETHLEHEM, Pa., April 29.—Six burglars, attempting to enter Wm. Wickham's store, were surprised by an officer who shot one dead. The remainder escaped.

A SHAMEFUL SCENE.

Having obtained power in South Carolina by the concession of a Republican administration, the Hamptonites show their gratitude by subjecting the Republicans of that State to all sorts of humiliation. The scene in the Legislature, as reported in the Charleston *News and Courier*, was shameful and humiliating in the extreme. The Republican members had been urged by their constituents to retain their seats, where they would perhaps be something of a bulwark against wrong, and therefore many of them submitted to the degrading terms demanded rather than leave. Some of the members, as we have before stated, would not be admitted on any terms. Here are extracts from the reprint in the *News and Courier*. Remember these were colored members who were summoned before their triumphant white associates. The *News and Courier* says:

> They were not permitted to shirk the humiliation of confession in the slightest degree. Miller, of Beaufort, who came first, said in a shamefaced way, in marked contrast with his usual insolent demeanor: "What I have done I believe to be right, but I am perfectly willing to recognize you as the legal Speaker, and this as the legal House of Representatives." This declaration was objected to as altogether insufficient, and Miller thereupon at once retracted it and confessed that he had been in the wrong and asked pardon. He requested that he might be allowed to say, in behalf of his colleagues, that they made the same apologies as himself, but the House very properly insisted upon a personal explanation from each man.
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> Morgan, Forrest and Caldwell, of Orangeburg, were next called, and came forward very doggedly. Morgan said: "I am sorry for everything I have done in violation of the constitution of this State." "Do you ask pardon of this House?" Several voices—"It appears as if this man is trying to avoid a recantation." Morgan—"I axes forgiveness, sir." Forrest was very sulky. He said: "I am sorry for my violation of the constitution of the State." The Speaker—"Do you ask forgiveness?" Forrest—"I always asks forgiveness when I does wrong." The Speaker—"Do you admit you have done wrong?" Forrest—"Of course, if I have violated the constitution, I has done wrong." Voices from the Democratic side—"We don't propose to have this man shuffle round in this way; he must purge his contempt or leave." Forrest, much moved—"I say, I axes pardon, sir."
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> And so the scene went on, one member, protesting that he had erred through inexperience, another alleging that he supposed he was right, but had discovered his error, and the third hesitating to do more than accept the condition of things, but all finally making abject apologies for their lawless and wicked course. The declarations of some of the negro members caused much laughter, Peterson, of Williamsburg, saying: "I axes the House to forgive me for my waywardness;" his colleague, Evans, remarking: "I know I is done wrong, and I axes pardon, sir."

How does this compare with the old slave pen scenes before the war? Mark the circumstances under which this humiliation was put upon these men. They had been victorious at the last election. They had organized what they knew to be the lawful Legislature of the State, and they had inaugurated their Governor. Now, in the interests of "peace and good will" it was proposed that the Republican Governor should abdicate and the Republican Legislature should disband. The country was assured if this was done that the well of gratitude and love swelling up in the Hamptonian heart would be something marvelous. So the plan was accepted. Wade Hampton assumed the reins of government; and now, in this brief time, behold the result: A majority of the Republican members excluded altogether from the Legislature, and those who are admitted compelled to crawl upon their knees in abject humiliation to crave for pardon! Is it not a cheerful and reassuring picture? And in view of it the New York *World* has the effrontry to make this comment:

> On Thursday last the day of retribution came. To the Democratic members organized as the only lawful House, the Republican legislators, abandoned by their Governor and State officers, and disowned by the President they had done so much to elect, came as suppliants—like "sheep without a sheperd when the snow shuts out the sky." A committee was appointed to consider their case, and reported that the members from certain counties constituting the first division of repentant sinners should be admitted to their seats upon purging themselves from the contempt in which they stood for their rebellion against the legal organization. To do this they were required to confess that they had done wrong and to ask pardon, when the oath of office would be administered. It was a trying ordeal and as the suppliants came up one after another affirmed that they had been knaves when they attempted to steal control of the State, they put upon the Republican party the foulest shame that any political organization in this country has ever undergone. The downfall of Packard and Chamberlain, repudiated by their own partisans, was bad enough; but they vociferously maintained their sincerity and honesty to the last. These South Carolina legislators pleaded guiety to complicity in a great conspiracy, and threw themselves on the mercy of the court.

Comment is unnecessary.—*Inter-Ocean.*

Another Accident.

PHILADELPHIA, May 3.—This afternoon a serious accident was caused by the cars of a construction train jumping the track on the New Atlantic City narrow gauge railroad at a place called Williamstown junction. Owen Sweeney was instantly killed. Michael White died soon after the accident, and Wm. Welsh died tonight at the hospital from injuries received. Charles Anderson is badly injured. Frank Newman, James Redden and Charles Gray, all wounded, were brought to the Pennsylvania hospital to-night. Their injuries are not serious.

Bad Work by Strikers.

RONDOUT, N. Y., May 3.—The men employed at the works of the Anthracite fuel company, at Port Ewin, who were receiving $1.12½ per day, struck on Monday last. The company obtained new men and commenced work yesterday, when the strikers stoned the men and threatened their lives. Five men have been arrested.

POLITICAL MURDERS.

The Tragedy in Mississippi.

WASHINGTON, May 2.—The assassination of the six leading Republicans in Kemper county, Miss., has created quite a sensation here, and is the cause of no little annoyance to the President. The attempts to create the impression that they are not political murders, which the agents of the Associated Press in Mississippi are making, are shown to be untrue by the testimony taken by the Senate committee during the last Congress. Chisolm and Gilmer were both witnesses last winter and the year previous, and both gave a full history of the political affairs of Kemper county, where about two hundred old Whigs and the colored men had voted the Republican ticket since the war. No carpet-baggers had gone there. All the five Republicans so far reported as killed were in the rebel army. Chisolm was a judge before the war, and has been Secretary of State.

Gilmer has been for many years Republican State Senator. In Gilmer's testimoney he gave several accounts of conspiracies to murder himself and others and on one occasion he with Hooper, Rosenbaum and Chisolm, were driven into the woods and remained there several days to dodge a band of men who had organized to murder them.

FORESHADOWED.

The tragedy that has just been enacted is all forshadowed in about a hundred pages of the Senate testimony. Chisolm would have been elected to Congress last fall if the Republicans had been allowed to vote, but he himself was held a prisoner in his own house on election day, and the previous night his house had been fired into and the lower part riddled with bullets. One of the peculiar features of his testimony, as well as that of Gilmer, was that Congressman Morey, himself holding a seat in the House obtained by fraud and violence, was allowed to cross-examine both witnesses, and made them give the names of Democrats who had been guilty of various outrages, and then these men seem to have reorganized for the purpose of exterminating all the Republican leaders in Kemper county.

Gully, who was shot in jail at the head of the mob, by Miss Chisolm, was the chairman of the Democratic county committee. Both witnesses told the committee they would probably be murdered on their return, but they would go back and fight it out.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT OF THE BUTCHERY.

JACKSON, May 1.—The following additional account has been received of the bloody affair in Kemper County:

On Thursday last John W. Gully, a prominent citizen of Kemper county, was assassinated by an unknown party. The murder created intense excitement, and every means was resorted to to discover the perpetrator. On Saturday two colored men made affidavit that Benjamin Rush, a white man, was the guilty party, and that Judge Chisolm, who ran for Congress on the Republican ticket in the Third District at the last election, his son, and Gilmer, Rosenbaum, and a man named Hooper, all white Republicans, knew of and instigated the crime. Judge Chisolm and his son were arrested and imprisoned at De Kalb, and Mrs. Chisolm and daughter insisted on sharing their confinement. On Sunday Judge Chisolm sent to Scooba for Gilmer, for whom a warrant had been issued. Gilmer came, and on his arrival was arrested, but just as he arrived at the jail he was set upon by a mob and killed. The jailor was then overpowered by the mob, who immediately attacked Judge Chisolm, mortally wounding him and killing his son. Miss Chisholm, in defending her father, shot and killed Dr. Rosili, and Mrs. Chisolm severely wounded young Gully, a son of Mr. Gully, who was assassinated. Miss Chisolm was also seriously wounded. Rosenbaum and Hopper were carried to the woods by the mob for the purpose of extorting from them the whereabouts of Rush, the alleged assassin of Mr. Gully. When last heard from, some two weeks ago, Rush was in Arkansas. It is supposed Rosenbaum and Hopper were hanged. A horrible state of affairs is reported as existing throughout that section. The people were wild with excitement, and other hangings will probably follow.

A Desperate Encounter With a Burglar.

AURORA, Ill., May 1.—Ira H. Fitch, Esq., one of our oldest citizens, for many years justice of the peace, was awakened this morning at 2 o'clock by a noise in the dining room. He reached for his pants and found them gone, but arose and with a revolver in hand passed into the other room. Finding the other door open he passed out and found a man burrying away. He called him to stop or he would shoot. The scoundrel then advanced, saying: "Don't shoot, Mr. Fitch; I have come to help you." As he came close he struck Mr. Fitch in the face and tried to stab him. A struggle ensued, Mr. Fitch trying to shoot, but could not cock the revolver. The robber tried to stab him in the abdomen, but was prevented. He, however, cut him severely in the face and broke away. Mr. Fitch fired after him, but without effect. The burglar got away with $100, which was paid Mr. Fitch yesterday on a judgment. Mr. Fitch is severely cut in the forehead, and lost a good deal of blood, but is not dangerously hurt. No clue to the thief.

A Drunken Man's End.

COLUMBUS, O., May 2.—A middle aged man came to the American Hotel last night, and registered as G. W. Standley, Champaign County. He then went out, and was brought back to the hotel about 2 o'clock by the police in an intoxicated condition. He was put to bed and was quiet until about 6 o'clock when he was seen hanging out of his window in the fifth story of the hotel. Before he could be rescued he fell to the pavement below, breaking his legs and inflicting what will probably be fatal injuries. He was removed to the hospital.

A Fellow That Ends in Suicide.

PITTSBURGH, May 3.—Wm. P. Weyman, of Weyman & Bros., tobacconists, who failed on Tuesday for over $200,000, committed suicide at 8 o'clock, this morning, by cutting his throat with a razor. The deceased was about thirty-eight years old, and leaves a wife and four children. He had for several days been suffering from brain fever, superinduced by financial troubles.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 2, 1877

EX-JUDGE, NOW SENATOR DAVIS.

Different opinions are expressed relative to the political positions which ex-Judge of the Supreme Court Davis, now Senator from the State of Illinois will take in the Senate, some contending that he will vote on party issues with the Democrats, and others as stoutly asserting that he will act with the Republicans. Having been elected by the united votes of the Democrats in the legislature, in opposition to the Republican candidate, as were Senators Paddock, Christiancy, and Cameron (of Wis.), that fact gives no indication of his partisan *status* in the Senate. The three last named Senators have, on party questions, been found voting with the Republicans. But the great curiosity is relative to Senator Davis' views on the currency question—whether he will act with Thomas Ewing and Judge Kelly, or stand firmly on the Republican platform. We must wait and learn?

IS COTTON KING.

The old time saying that "Cotton is King" is again to be applicable so far as relates to the quantity and value of the crop in the United States. Statistics show that the production of free labor in the last eight years exceeds that of the eight years preceding the war by 1,500,000 bales; of the consumption of cotton by England and the United States, which is annually 6,000,000 bales, the United States produces 4,500,000 bales. Four per cent of the area of Texas alone would produce this 6,000,000 bales. In that State the largest portion of the crop is now raised by farmers owning their own land. The capabilities of the South in the line of production are not confined to cotton. Attention since the war has been largely directed to raising the cereals and to stock raising. There is a fair prospect that the South will soon be able to feed her own people and to manufacture her own raw material. Then will be the day of her substantial deliverance.

SOUTH CAROLINA ON TRIAL.

The Republican State Officers of South Carolina having yielded, all departments of the State Government are now under the control of Hampton. With him and his Democratic followers rests the responsibility of preserving order, restoring prosperity, dispensing impartial justice to both races, and securing the fullest freedom to the press and the elective franchise. But the Palmetto Democracy propose to effect all this by operating the old machinery, and standing by the principles of the old party which led the State into rebellion. As well might you expect grapes on thorns, or that streams would flow back to their sources, as to look for a fulfillment of the promises given by Hampton and his friends if they propose no change of instrumentalities.

THE PRESIDENT'S PERSONAL LIKES.

It has ever been recognized as praiseworthy "to be true to your friends." There never was a successful public man who ignored the mutual obligation of reciprocal friendship. It is the shining trait in the mental organism of ex-President Grant, and "like charity it covereth a multitude of his sins" of commission as well as omission. How oft hath it been said of him "he never forgets a favor bestowed upon him in the obscurity of his early life." President Hayes has started out in his Presidential career in the same way. The college chum and the companion in arms have recognition at the White House. Indeed, home companionships are not forgotten; but so far we do not know that nepotism can be charged to his discredit.

A CLAIM OF $8 000 SWELLED TO $51.000.

The length of time required to settle certain classes of claims against Uncle Sam finds illustration in the case of a revolutionary claim, first presented as early as 1780. The Government failed to recognize the validity of the claim from time to time, and last winter Congress authorized the United States Court of Claims to examine it and make an award if any was called for. The Court decreed it just and ordered that it be paid. The United States appealed the case to the United States Supreme Court, which the other day affirmed the decision of the Court below, and two or three days since it was paid. The original claim amounted to but $8 000, but the Court decided that ninety-seven years interest must be paid, and in consequence the holder of the claim received as his due about $51,000, or nearly seven times the amount of the original claim.

THE PRESIDENT AND "DEAD BEATS."

It is quite evident that President Hayes is an excellent reader of human character. Recently a pestilent little demagogue, by name John Pope Hodnett, with some forty followers, called upon him. The President condescended to go out into the ante-room to receive the party, when Hodnett opened out upon him with a set speech on "Capital versus Labor," "Suffrage in the District of Columbia," etc., etc. The President gave Hodnett to understand that the subjects he had spoken of must of necessity be treated by Congress as he had no power in the matter. It is probably the first and last time Hodnett will harangue our new Chief Executive.

"YOUNG MAN GO WEST."

"I am going to Deadwood," said one of the recently discharged employees of the Patent Office; "I hav'nt got cheek enough for Washington." But this young man was exceptionally courageous and self-reliant. Fully nine-tenths of the discharged employes of the Government remain here in the vain hope of ultimately being re-instated. I say vain hope because not more than one in ten manages to get back into his former position. In such cases Congressional and other powerful influences sufficient to secure the mission to England or France is necessary, and such influence but few can obtain. It would have been far better had the unfortunates who now find themselves without employment and with no funds on hand never hungered after "Government pap," and remained at their respective homes.

THE TEST AT THE BALLOT-BOX

The test of the President's policy will come at the next elections held for State Officers and Congressmen in the South. Governors Hampton and Nicholls have "promised fair," and the Southern Democrats generally have tacitly pledged themselves to allow the Republicans of the South to have a fair "show." The Republicans of the North will then be able to judge whether these promises will be fulfilled or not. If they are not, Republicans have the consolation of knowing that the President has plainly said "In case I find my Southern Policy wrong, "*I shall at once take the back track.*" We must have no more Cainhoy or Hamburg massacres in the South. The Southern leaders must be held strictly to their promises, and there is every indication that the President will strenuously insist upon holding them to a rigid accountability.

DELTA.

The New York Postoffice.

NEW YORK, May 1.—A section of the northeast corner of the New York Postoffice building fell at two o'clock this afternoon while men were at work removing supports which had been placed under it while making repairs. The scene of the accident was an unfinished room about thirty seven feet square, adjoining those under the dome. At the time of the accident there were ten men at work in the room and had nearly completed their labors, when, without warning, a whole section of the roof which covered them fell, bodily tearing the iron girders from their sockets and completely covering the men with the concrete which composed the filling-in of the roof. Dense clouds of smoke filled the hallways, and gave the impression that the building was on fire, and an alarm was sent out calling the fire department to the scene. Edward H. Dougherty, general foreman of the works hastily collected his men and commenced the work of removing the mass of iron and concrete, not knowing how many of his laborers had been buried underneath. A section of police from the city hall were quickly at the scene of the disaster. Charles A. Robinson, a laborer, was the first one found in the ruins, and was taken out dead. John Collister was the next found, with both arms broken, and otherwise injured. Dennis Fleming was taken out in an unconscious condition. Foreman Dougherty then got his men together and called the roll, when it was found that Max Hensit and Henry Jones were slightly injured, and a man named Patrick Johnson, who commenced work this morning, was missing, search was immediately began in hopes of finding him alive, but the nature of the material was such as to seriously retard the progress of the workmen. At last, in a remote corner of the room where the principal weight seemed to have fallen, his lifeless body was found. The dead and wounded were removed to Chambers street Hospital. Thomas A. Oakshott, supervisor inspector in charge of the building, on being asked the cause of the accident, said that there was a brick wall partially supporting the dome which was cracked, and it was thought that it had been settling for some months, and had caused a deflex in the ceiling below. Iron truss of the same kind as those adjoining had been placed in position to support it. He was in the room about half an hour before the accident occurred, and all struts had been removed. He was sitting in his office when he heard the crash and thinking it was the ceiling of the court room that had fallen, ran across the hall and looking up saw that the ceiling was settling rapidly, and expected to see it fall. He then ran up stairs and discovered that a section of the roof had fallen. He thought upon examination that there was a flaw in the iron truss. Edward H. Dougherty, general foreman, also was of the opinion that there was a flaw in the truss. In the United States Circuit Court room, underneath, the ceiling was badly cracked, and it is thought that the greater part of it will have to be taken down. A post mortem examination upon the bodies of Robinson and Johnson will be held tomorrow morning.

The *Times* says: "A representative of Supervising Architect Mullet ascribes the accident to the fact that the truss was improperly put up that it was used as a girder, and that the weight was thrown upon the lower side of it instead of the upper as it should have been. It was stated by this authority that Mr J. J. Hill, Superintending Architect, on Monday examined the truss and pronounced it all right. One person in control said he was not aware, until he saw pieces of the roof after the accident, that it was of such immense thickness, and his own judgment would not have approved such a roof or placed it where it was.

Three Persons Killed.

PATERSON, N. J, May 3.—Near Pompton, last evening, while returning from a funeral' Simon Demarest, with four other persons, in a carriage, attempted to cross the Mt. Clair railroad ahead of a train. The engine struck the vehicle, killing Mr. Demarest, Miss Taylor, of Paterson, and a young man. The other two persons were fatally injured

Simon Demarest, killed at Pompton, was 62 years of age, and Miss Taylor, who lived in Paterson, sixteen. The three that were killed, suffered instantaneous death. Thos. Daboy, aged 20 years, was badly injured about the head and also internally but may recover. Julia Gaboy, aged 17 years was terribly cut across the face and head and probably sustained a fracture of the skull. Her recovery is improbable. All but Miss Taylor lived at Pompton. It is claimed that Demarest drove in front of the approaching train which was in plain sight of all in the wagon.

South Carolina.

COLUMBIA, S. C., May 1.—The question of title to the State offices was settled to-day by counsel for the Republicans, who went into the Supreme Court and moved to withdraw their answers from file, and consented that judgment be entered in favor of plaintiffs. The Hampton State officers were advised of the entry of judgment, and Governor Hampton issued instructions to remove the seals from the several offices. The offices will be transferred to-morrow.

HARRISBURG, Pa., May 1.—Governor Hartranft issued a warrant today for the execution, June 21, of Andrew Lanahs, of Luzerne county, for the murder of Captain Reilly, of Wilkesbarre; also, for the execution on the same day, of the "Millie Maguires" Edward Kelley, Michael J. Doyle, and John Donohue, of Carbon county, and Thomas Munley, of Schuylkill county.

Railroad Accident.

KEOKUK, Iowa, May. 3—A passenger train on the Keokuk and Des Moines railroad jumped the track near Ottumwa and nearly all the thirty passengers on board were more or less injured. A tramp, who was stealing a ride on the platform, was killed.

OUR NEW-YORK LETTER.

NEW YORK, May 5, 1876.

LIFE INSURANCE

Another life insurance company has gone up. The "American Popular," a company organized for taking graded risks, passed into the hands of the State committee, and a most frightful degree of rottenness was shown. False entries, false swearing, false everything was developed, and the officers are to be prosecuted. It is to be hoped that the law can reach these swindlers, and that a life insurance president may be added to the State's collection of criminal curiosities. The good companies are suffering from these exposes, but they are nevertheless glad. It will injure the interest for a time, but it will be the better for the really good ones when confidence is finally restored, as all the frauds will be out of the way. They will not be exposed to the unhealthy competition of the frauds, who never expect to pay, and who therefore can do business for nothing.

HOW THEY LIVE.

There are at the present time one hundred thousand men in the city of New York who live, somehow, without labor. They are nuisances in the worst sense of the term, for every mouthful that goes down their throats is paid for by some one else. They make no pretence of work, but, filthy and impudent, they stand on the streets and beg for charity, when they lack an opportunity to steal safely. You see them everywhere on the streets, the offices and stores are infested with them, each with his story of a "family to support, and no work sir," and a curse if you refuse them. And there are as many women as men, and more children than either, engaged in the same calling. Women will sit by the hour on curb-stones, with a sleeping child, its rags so displayed as to excite sympathy; the child, be it known, dragged with laudanum to keep it quiet, and with sores artistically painted on its little arms and legs to attract attention. These children are in most cases not their own, but are leased to them by the day, by women who make a business of collecting them and renting them out. Then comes the vast army of men, women and children who have small articles like pencils, pins and matches for sale, which is only another form of begging, for the articles are such as nobody wants, and the offer to sell is always an appeal to charity. "Please buy a pencil, sir, and help a poor man who has no work and a large famly to support," or, "for the love uv God, buy a paper uv pins and help a poor woman who has six small children, and a husband sick at home and her rent to pay." The small children, the family and the sick husband are all myths, the money obtained goes straight to the nearest gin-shop, the food necessary to keep life in the beggar being obtained from the charities, and the garbage barrels. An office in the vicinity of the post-office that does not have a hundred of these half-mendicants, half-traders and all thieves in them every day is lucky. And woe be to the over-coat, pocket-knife, gold pen or anything else of the value of a cent that is exposed for a minute. It is of no use to post up notices forbidding them to enter, it is of no use to kick them out—they expect that—they come and come in one dreary procession till the eye tires of them, and patience is exhausted. They are worse than the frogs of Egypt. Of course ninety-nine per cent. of them are foreigners, the Irish predominating largely. Thousands upon thousands of the very scum of European cities are landed yearly, to swell the the volume of mendicants, and they all stick in the great cities. They won't work, they won't go away, and so they pester New York. It is a pity that some law cannot be passed to confine these people and make them work for their bread. It is a heavy tax upon the city to support this army, but there appears to be no law to reach them.

TWEED.

As might have been expected, every man mentioned in Tweed's confession denies it vehemently, and the Boss has not yet produced the proof necessary to convict them. The old fox is holding back his evidence till he is sure that his confession will bring about his release. He has it in his hands to unearth the villainy of which he was the centre, but he will not do it till he has what he wants, his liberty. In the meantime, there is trouble enough among the New York politicians. Men, who in the flush times of the ring received ten or twenty or fifty thousand dollars, who have almost forgotten the transaction, are turning pale when they know that it is certain that Tweed saved his cheque-books, as well as a memoranda of all his transactions, and that he can state with accuracy where every dollar of the swag went to. Respectable men, who took his wages supposing it would be forever a secret, are thronging to his room—begging for immunity, but to all of them the Boss has one answer: "I am in prison, you are out, rich. Get me out, with something to live upon." And so a vast number of men are talking with suspicious plentifulness of the hardships the old man has been subjected to, and whether the ends of justice will be subserved by keeping him longer in prison, and so on. It is said by those who ought to know, that this talk of poverty and being a broken man is all buncombe. They say that he has at least three millions safely hived, and that he proposes when he does get out to rally around him his old friends, and make an effort to get control of the city and State again. There is no doubt that there is truth in this. Once free, with the money he has, he could bring the Irish to his support, and could capture Tammany with ease. He is only fifty-six, and is as strong as he ever was; and no man ever lived who had more of the organizing and controlling talent. His old adherents who have been eating husks since he went under, long for such a leader, and they would rally under his banner in a minute. For when Tweed was at the front they were all paid, and paid well. If he wanted an editor he never went at him in a mean way; but his cheque for ten or twenty thousand dollars, according to his value, was made at once, with no nonsense about it. And so with all of them. There are so many who want to be bought, but who now can find no one to buy them, that the reappearance of Tweed in the political arena would make a decided stir in the city. He can find a party without trouble, and it need surprise no one if within a year the old man has control of the city again.

POLITICAL.

There is weeping and wailing in the city among the place men. The Custom House cleaning is going on rapidly, and the bar-rooms are full of red-nosed men who are d——g Hayes' Southern policy. The trouble with them is that every man has just received his walking paper, and is a wife on the cold charity of an unfeeling world, instead of having a nice salary to draw monthly. That is what ails them. It is estimated that there are five thousand of this class of bummers, and as fast as they can be reached they are being shoved out. Applicants for places in the Custom House are thick as leaves in Valembrosa, but they all receive the same answer—"no vacancies, and none likely to occur." And they go away sorrowing, and consider Hayes' Southern policy a failure. But while these fellows mourn, the people rejoice. For Hayes is the first President who has ever made an attempt in good faith to carry out civil service reform: He can do it, for he is an honest man who means what he says; and, besides, he has no aspirations for political preferment, and he can afford to snub the spoilsmen. And he is doing it.

THE WEATHER

is delightful, and New York is as beautiful as anything can be. Business is improving slightly, and there is a better feeling.

PIETRO.

Rare Old Ben Wade.

CLEVELAND, May 2.— The *Leader* to-morrow morning will contain the following letter from Hon. B. F. Wade:

"JEFFERSON, April 30. 1877.—*To the Editor of the Leader:* I notice in your paper of to-day two articles relating to myself copied from the New York *Tribune*. The first purports to come from Mr. Ward Lamon, of Washington, formerly marshal of the District, stating in substance that some time during Mr. Lincoln's administration a conspiracy was formed by the Republicans in Congress opposed to his administration to depose him from the Presidency, and to put either Mr. Fremont or myself in his place as dictator; that a written memorandum of the compact was made at the time; that a copy of it was in the possession of Mr. Chase, and by him shown to Mr. Lincoln.

Now, I desire to brand the above statement in all its parts as a wilful and malignant falsehood, and if Mr. Ward Lamon ever made such a statement as is alleged, to any one, I pronounce him a liar. I saw the article in the *Tribune* last week, and had it related only to myself I should not have condescended to notice so silly a lie, but when I find it copied into respectable journals, and as it implicates many members of that brave old Congress that carried us triumphantly through the war, most of whom are in their graves, I thought such a scandal upon them should not go uncontradicted.

The second statement, relating to Mr. Painter, is as follows: "Mr. Wade is credited with saying, in explanation of his famous letter, that it was confidential, and was made public by a person totally depraved and utterly destitute of honor." This is also utterly false. Although the letter was private, it found its way to the public in a manner which entirely exculpates Mr. Painter from all blame; nor do I blame him for its publication, as it contained only the sentiments which I stand by now. I do not regret its publication, and in all the hostile criticisms in the papers and otherwise which it has called forth no one has, as yet, denied that it contained the exact truth. In vindication of Mr Painter, I will say that I have known him for many years, and he is as honorable a man as I have ever been acquainted with.

Respectfully yours, &c.,
B. F. WADE.

Bull-Dozing a Grand Jury.

"Gen." M. C. Butler, of South Carolina, who was last rendered notorious by his connection with the Hamburg massacre of colored men, and is now an applicant for a seat in the United States Senate, has been interviewed at great length by a correspondent of the Charlston *News*. He says that he is entirely in accord with the policy of the Democratic party as announced by Gov. Hampton, and that he thinks that in whatever proper measures Mr. Hayes proposes for the benefit of the country, especially for the interests of the South, it is the duty of every patriotic citizen to support him. With sublime audacity he says that he has "always insisted that the negro being free, was entitled to the fullest protection of the law;" and then expresses himself as follows: "I have been recently informed by two leading Republicans that Corbin and Earle have a lot of negroes in Charleston, and are hatching a conspiracy specially against me in connection with the Hamburg matter. They have packed the Grand Jury by placing upon it some of the most corrupt and facile of the political henchmen. I am fully advised of their purposes, and while I have no objection to the fullest and most complete investigation of my action, and while I have for nearly a year been trying to get this matter investigated in the courts of the State, I do not intend to submit quietly to this persecution by these two individuals, who have it in their power to avail themselves of the legal machinery of the General Government to oppress and misrepresent their political opponents. I shall have to resort to every summary proceeding to protect myself against this contemplated outrage. I have received my information from leading Republicans, who appeared to speak whereof they knew. It would be well that the composition and the manner of the organization of the grand jury be inquired into. I think it would develop a plan that would startle and disgust the country. The days of star chamber courts and packed juries are surely over in this country."

Body-Snatchers.

QUINCY, ILL., May 3.—There is considerable excitement among the citizens here over the stealing of bodies from Woodland Cemetery. How many graves have been despoiled is not known, but on various occasions lately parties have been seen at work there by night, and they are believed to be body snatchers, though as yet unidentified. Two bodies are known to be missing, and tools used in the exhumation have been discovered by the sexton.

Two Murderers Lynched.

San Francisco, May 3.—Last Saturday night Henri DeFor